



# **COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**

## *Department of Emergency Management*

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**DISASTER FIELD OFFICE  
5701 INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD  
NORTON, VIRGINIA 24273  
FEMA-1411-DR-VA  
Commonwealth Situation Report #17  
Monday, 3 June 2002**

**1. OPERATIONAL PERIOD:**

*1200 hours 31 May 2002 through 1200 hours 3 Jun 2002. (New information in italics)*

**2. SITUATION:**

On the evening of 28 April a severe weather system entered Virginia from the west and, once across the Blue Ridge Mountains, developed into a series of tornadoes. Local emergencies were declared in Bedford City, and Bedford, Campbell, Greensville, and Shenandoah Counties. On 2 May 2002, continuing severe weather impacted Virginia. Wind, rain and flood damage was again widespread with the most severe damage occurring in the southwest part of the state. In Buchanan County, heaviest damage was northeast of Grundy in the vicinity of Hurley, and was due to flash flooding and mudslides. Damaging floodwaters and strong winds also impacted nearby Tazewell County.

On 2 May 2002, Governor Warner declared a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth in response to the tornado damage on 28 April 2002. On 3 May 2002 the declaration was expanded to include the areas affected by the storms of 2 May.

On 5 May 2002, President Bush declared a major disaster for the Commonwealth of Virginia in FEMA 1411-DR-VA in Buchanan and Tazewell Counties for Individual Assistance (IA) and Hazard Mitigation.

On 8 May 2002, the Major Disaster Declaration was amended to include Public Assistance for the counties of Buchanan and Tazewell.

On 15 May 2002 Amendment No. 2 was made to the Major Disaster Declaration to include Individual Assistance for the counties of Bedford, Campbell, Cumberland, Greensville, Prince Edward, Shenandoah, and the independent City of Bedford.

Functions at the Wise DFO established in a prior declared disaster, DR-1406-VA, have been expanded to include operations for DR-1411-VA. The DFO hours of operation are 0800 hrs to 1630 hrs Monday through Friday. The DFO will be closed on Saturdays and Sundays. Situation Reports will be published on Tuesdays for FEMA-1406-DR-VA, and Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for FEMA-1411-DR-VA.

**3. WEATHER:**

*Monday: Partly cloudy. High 78. WSW winds 3 mph. Pressure: 30.09 in Hg*

**4. CURRENT PRIORITIES:**

- A. Remove obstacles to optimize debris removal.
- B. Expedite immediate housing needs and coordinate with long-term housing requirements.
- C. Assist in Hurley Recovery in Buchanan County.
- D. Resolve access problems for temporary housing.

**5. ONGOING ACTIONS/ISSUES:****A. Individual Assistance (IA):**

- Residents, requiring disaster assistance, are being referred to the FEMA teleregistration number, 1-800-621-3362, TTY 1-800-462-7585. These numbers are staffed 7 days a week, 0700 to 1900 hrs.

**DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS***Daily Report*

***Buchanan County DRC, Hurley Middle School, State Route 643, Hurley, VA  
Opened 7 May 2002, Hours 0900-1800 hrs, 6 days/week closed on Sundays.***

Date	Today's Recp.	Phone Bank	AA*	SBA*	HazMit*	IFG*	DUA*	CC*	IRS*	AGRI*	INS*	AGING*	VOL*	LEGAL*	Local Official	Paper Apps.
06/01	7	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	656	118	470	339	273	8	44	8	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	40

\*Applicant Assistance (AA), Small Business Administration (SBA), Hazard Mitigation (HazMit), Individual & Family Grants (IFG), Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA), Crisis Counseling (CC), Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Department of Agriculture, Farm Services Bureau (AGRI), Insurance Help (INS), Aging Services (AGING), Volunteer Agencies (VOL), Legal Help (LEGAL)

- The Buchanan County Health Department will perform free testing of well water through mid-August 2002.
- Crisis Counseling: Crisis counseling Assistance and training Program (CCP). The Cumberland Mountain Community Service Board is functioning within the declaration area and providing Mental Health, Crisis Counseling and Critical Incident Stress Debriefing services as needed. The Immediate Services Program Grant application was submitted to FEMA on Friday, 17 May. The Board has received FEMA approval for \$42,494 under the Immediate Services Program Grant provision of the CCP. CMCSB contact is Sherry Sanders, Emergency Services Coordinator- O; 276-964-6703; C; 276-964-1682.
- Coordinator of State Recovery Task Force met with officials from Buchanan and Wise Counties regarding a local Disaster Recovery Task Force for their locality. Follow-up meetings are planned for June 2002. *A meeting will be held on 4 June at 7 p.m. in Grundy to form a local group and to identify available resources.*
- Anticipated Significant Activities: Continue DRC and DFO staffing and Support Coordination Activities. Continue working long-term housing issues.

- *The Human Services Program Summary as of COB 1 June 2002 follows:*

#### Registrations & Contacts

	<i>Since Last sitrep</i>	<i>Designated Cities/Counties</i>	<i>Undesignated Counties</i>	<i>Cumulative</i>
<i>Teleregistrations</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>1363/3</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>1375</i>
<i>Help line Calls</i>	<i>19</i>			<i>1120</i>

#### Disaster Unemployment Assistance

CLAIMS	SINCE LAST REPORT	TOTAL
<i>Filed</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Approved</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Paid (#)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Paid (\$)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$3,621</i>

#### Disaster Housing Program

REGISTRATIONS	SINCE LAST IA REPORT	TOTAL
<i>Received</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1189</i>
<i>Approved</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>894</i>
<i>Pending</i>		<i>37</i>
<i>Approved Eligible (\$)</i>	<i>\$18,422.27</i>	<i>\$1,687,822.84</i>
<b>Assistance Checks</b>		
<i>Recommended (#)</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>917</i>
<i>Recommended (\$)</i>	<i>\$27,489.27</i>	<i>\$1,697,493.61</i>

#### Individual & Family Grant Program

REGISTRATIONS	SINCE LAST SITREP	TOTAL
<i>Received</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>730</i>
<i>Received by State</i>	<i>+3</i>	<i>670</i>
<i>Pending Decision</i>	<i>- 0</i>	<i>87</i>
<i>Eligible (#)</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>157</i>
<i>Eligible (\$)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$445,791.00</i>
<i>Disbursed (#)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>119</i>
<i>Disbursed (\$)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$315,575.00</i>

#### Small Business Administration

LOAN APPLICATIONS	HOME	BUSINESS	ECONOMIC INJURY (EIDL)	TOTAL
<i>[* Issued</i>	<i>609</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>752</i>
<i>Received</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>245</i>
<i>Declined</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>60</i>
<i>Withdrawn</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>40</i>
<i>Approved (#)</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>51</i>
<i>Approved (\$)</i>	<i>\$812,100</i>	<i>\$184,300</i>	<i>\$87,700</i>	<i>\$1,084,100</i>
<i>Pending</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>76</i>

- Disaster assistance to Buchanan County was expanded to include Emergency Food Stamps. Applications were accepted through 17 May 2002. A total of \$250,000 in Emergency Food Stamps was distributed.
- *Twelve travel trailers are now occupied. Sixteen trailers were approved for placement by close of business 31 May.* IA estimates that 50 trailers may be needed. Travel trailers are being tied to existing utilities.
- The Virginia Bar Association has activated a toll-free Disaster Legal Services Number, 1-800-552-7977, to provide emergency legal services to disaster victims.
- A phone bank has been established to coordinate volunteer groups offering assistance. Volunteers can call 276-935-7419, then identify nature of call, what services they wish to perform, and leave a callback number.

**B. Public Assistance (PA)**

- The Corps contractor, DRC, *continued* removal of debris today from the Hurley area.
- All signatories are reviewing a draft Demolition Operations Plan among the Commonwealth of Virginia, the County of Buchanan, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, dated 31 May 2002.
- Approximately 85% of the homes on the County Judge's demolition list, for the Hurley area, are mobile homes.
- To date \$ 1,479,271.10 has been obligated in public assistance.
- There are 86 homes/buildings on the list for potential demolition. The Corps of Engineers can demolish houses destroyed or unable to be repaired. The Commonwealth anticipates that a County Judge will issue orders citing the homes/buildings to be demolished.
- Project worksheets have been written and obligated for replacement of 10 to 14 County bridges at a cost of over \$1 million. Additionally, many private bridges are being constructed. To date 20% have been completed.

**C. Community Relations (CR):**

- *One* FEMA field officer deployed today to the Hurley community and surrounding areas in Buchanan County, *and one deployed to* Bedford and Campbell Counties and to Emporia, VA. *No VDEM CR field officers deployed today.*
- *The Virginia Department of Emergency Management Regional Coordinator visited the Campbell/Bedford area.*
- A temporary Post Office for Hurley has been established in Blackey at the Blackey Teen Center. Mail to Hurley residents should use the normal Hurley address.
- Individuals unable to work because of severe storms and flooding in Southwest Virginia may file for Disaster Unemployment Assistance at the nearest VEC field office by no later than 10 June 2002.

**D. Hazard Mitigation (HM):**

- Demolition of non-repairable structures. R. Dameron (VDEM) met with P. Navesky (USACE) on 23 May to discuss the demolition procedures and reporting requirements to ensure that any demolition does not jeopardize a potential FEMA acquisition project.
- FEMA is currently conducting "targeted Mitigation surveys of the damaged structures in the Buchanan County area (1411). VDEM has requested and was verbally assured that the information provided in the FEMA surveys (if totally completed) can be utilized to support a benefit cost analysis as required for acquisition of structures.
- Buchanan County has received a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to fund alternate housing for residents who cannot rebuild. HM and IA staffs are monitoring progress of project for possible assistance opportunities.
- Possible NFIP compliance issues.  
Coordinated with State IA Officer and Deputy Coordinating Officer for strategy to address the process for IFG Program in Hurley.
- Coordinated with Army Corps of Engineers Emergency operations Team for obtaining their list of structures targeted by Buchanan County for possible demolition.

**E. Public Affairs Office (PAO):**

- *Friday*, the FCO and State Public Affairs Officer participated in a radio talk show at WNRG in Grundy. *Live questions asked by moderator, no call-ins.*
- *Monday*, *Weekly wrap-up news release (update of figures and weekly activities).*
- *Monday*, *Disaster unemployment deadline (6/10) reminder news release.*
- Anticipate news release urging return of SBA packets.

**F. Legislative Liaison:**

- No current activity to report.

**G. Hazardous Materials:**

- Phase 1 of Recovery and Disposal has been completed.
- The following containers have been disposed of: 16-1 lb propane tanks; 5-20 lb propane tanks; 19-100 lb propane tanks; 5-500 gal propane tanks; 1-330 gal propane tank, 2-250 gal propane tanks; 282-5 gal containers; 10-35 gal drums; 83-55 gal drums; 343 household waste containers; 1-20,000 gal tank; 3-1,000 gal tanks; 11-550 gal tanks; 10-275 gal tanks; 36 auto gas tanks; 38 water tanks; 31 water heaters; 8 freon tanks; 12 cylinders; 60 batteries; 1 sandblaster; 4 kerosene heaters; 28 gas cans; 3 fuel pumps; 5 transformers; 25 capacitors; 800 gals of fuel disposed.

WAT  
3 June 2002

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**Michael M. Cline, SCO**